



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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EC
4/24/03
10/3
(12) R-126
HM-390PCT

Applicant(s) : Horst Grafe, et al
Serial No. : 09/744,484
Int. Filed : JULY 17, 1999
For : METHOD AND DEVICE FOR EXCHANGING SHEARS
IN THE CUTTING TO LENGTH OF STRIPS OR
SHEETS IN THE ROLLING OR TRANSPORT LINE
Examiner : Jason Prone
Art Unit : 3724

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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RESPONSE

S I R:

In response to the office action dated March 12, 2003, applicants hereby elect the species of Figs. 1-3 which was identified by the Examiner in the office action as species I.

Before identifying the claims which are readable on the elected species, applicants respectfully point out that claims 1-8 are pending in the present application. This application was amended during the International phase by replacing claims 1-11 by new claims 1-8. A copy of the new claims 1-8 as submitted on

January 24, 2001, is enclosed herewith. These new claims were amended with a preliminary amendment which was also submitted on January 24, 2001.

Claims 1-6 of these new claims are readable on the elected species.

It is respectfully submitted that claims 1-5 are generic.

An action on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,
FRIEDRICH KUEFFNER

Dated: April 9, 2003

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on April 9, 2003.

By: *F.K.*
Friedrich Kueffner

Date: April 9, 2003